



In April, Significant Productions presents the **World Premier** of *Only Some of God's Children or Mississippi Magnolias* - Written & Directed by Paris Crayton III - as the fourth and final production of Season 10 at The SigPro Studio (1030 Old Mill Run, The Villages, Florida).

Best friends, John Curtis and William "Cochise" Brown, return home to Plantersville, Mississippi after taking part in the 1963 March on Washington. Inspired by the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders, the two men contemplate if they want to spend the rest of their lives in the south. Betty, John's wife, is anxious to leave Mississippi after their son Ezekiel is attacked at a sit-in protest. Meanwhile Cochise's wife, Hattie Mae, a local juke joint singer, is excited at the prospects of singing in northern nightclubs. She willingly leaves the decision to Cochise, but Cochise only looks to John. The hope of owning the Promised Land, worked on by generations of John's family, further complicates the decision of whether to leave Mississippi. Where will these two close families choose to grow their roots: in new northern lands, or the fertile southern soil they know so well? *Only Some of God's Children or Mississippi Magnolias* is a beautiful, yet terribly honest story of five different flowers just waiting to bloom.



JOEL DIGGS (John Malachi Curtis) was born in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa. He grew up in Reston, VA, and is currently a resident of Nashville, TN. Joel began his career in theatre in 2006 at Tennessee State University in Nashville. His theatre accolades include *Ma' Rainey's Black Bottom*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Jitney*, *Topdog/Underdog*, and *Pipeline*, just to name a few. Joel is truly grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the cast and crew in telling this wonderful and important story.



AVIS-MARIE BARNES (Betty Curtis) This is her second production with SigPro, her first being The Roommate in 2024. Her theatrical roles include: Sweetwater Taste, Oh Lord What a Night and The Best of Enemies (The Orlando Shakespeare Theater). Television roles include: Lodge 49 on AMC as Anita Jones, Oprah Winfrey's series Greenleaf as Misty Williams, and roles in the television shows Will Trent, Doom Patrol, Stranger Things, and Atlanta. Movie roles include: F1, My Mother the Madame, Pain Hustlers, Honk For Jesus. Save Your Soul, Girlfrendship, R.A.D.A.R, The Dirt and Jeepers Creepers. She is originally from Montclair, NJ and an alumnus of Howard University School of Fine Arts. Bloom where planted. Avis-MarieBarnes.biz | FB: @avismarie.barnes

The complete cast includes: **Herb Newsome*** (William "Cochise" Brown), **Jacquelin Lorraine Schofield*** (Hattie Mae Brown), **Phillip McNair** (Ezekiel "Zeke" Curtis/Man), **Jay C. Webb** (Boy), **Keith Batchelor** (Swing - John/Cochise), **Stephanie Anuwe** (Swing - Betty/Hattie Mae), **Jabari C. Williams** (U/S – Zeke).

The Theatre Management and Creative Teams are composed of Producer, **Jason Goedken**; Co-Founder & Consulting Artistic Director, **Whitney Morse**; Artistic Director, **Angel Creeks**; Director of Operations, **Jon Cronin**; Director of People, Projects, and Culture, **Leslie Becker**; Director, **Paris Crayton III**; Assistant Director/Literary and Casting Associate, **Jordan Gregson**; Intimacy Director, **Desiree Montes**; Cultural Competency Specialist, **Ayofemi**; Company Manager & Music Supervisor, **Ryan Loeckel**; Senior Manager Technical Operations, **Clayton Becker**; Assistant Technical Director, **Alison Madison**; Wig Designer, **Destinee Steele**; Resident Scenic/Props/Set Designer, **Joshua E. Gallagher**; Costume Designer, **Jarrod Barnes**; Costume Shop Supervisor, **Cory H. Garrett**; Lighting Supervisor, **Mario Gonzalez**; Sound Supervisor, **Roel Cavazos**; Lighting Designer/Lighting Technician, **Dio Raquel Jr**; Sound Designer, **Mikaela Fraser**; Resident Production Manager, **Stephanie Elliott**; Resident Production Stage Manager/Deck Stage Manager, **Madison Youngblood**; Resident Stage Manager/Swing Stage Manager, **Nicolas Raffenaud**; Resident Stage Manager/Stage Manager, **Zach Mlekush**; Assistant Manager of Patron Services/The Studio House Manager, **Savannah Rose Parker**; Carpenter, **Verna McIntyre**; Carpenter, **Antonio Campagna**; Director of Development, **Yasmeen Stogden**; Marketing Director, **Monica Berdecio**; Marketing & Media Coordinator, **Natalie Bollinger**; Marketing Account Manager, **Erika Kathryn**; Graphic Designer, **Krissi Kugler**; Manager of Patron Services/The Sharon House Manager, **Alec Speers**; Assistant Manager of Patron Services, **Tina Carroll & Lonnie Goertz**.

- **What:** Only Some of God's Children or Mississippi Magnolias
- **Where:** The SigPro Studio, 1030 Old Mill Run, The Villages, FL
- **When:** April 7 – May 9, 2026
- **For tickets:** www.TheSharonStudio.com | (352) 751-7799
- **Price:** Tickets \$30+
- **Sign Language Interpretation Show:** April 28, 2026
- **Free Talkbacks:** After 1pm performances on April 16th & May 7th
- **Advisories:** Adult Content, Language, Violence, Loud Noises, Stage Gun

The SigPro Studio's Mission is to inspire the residents of Central Florida to examine relevant issues by elevating them through innovative and intimate storytelling. Think outside the box, inside the box.

Media Contacts for The SigPro Studio:

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*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers, appearing under a special agreement with Actors' Equity Association.